THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) There is no proposal to create single authority by way of merging all social security schemes. However, the Government has enacted 'the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008'. The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board which shall recommend formulation of social security schemes *viz.* life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. The National Social Security Board has since been constituted under the chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister for Labour and Employment. The Board has representatives of Employer, Employees and Civil Society, Central/State Government Ministries/Departments.

(b) With a view to providing death and disability cover to rural landless households, the 'Aam Admi Bima Yojana' (AABY) was launched on 2nd October, 2007.

The 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL families, including agricultural workers, providing for smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis is in operation since 1st April, 2008.

Special legislation for verification of trade unions membership

2262. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking appropriate steps to verify the Central Trade Unions membership afresh in 2010;

(b) whether the verification could be done only up date membership of 2010 and not the back date membership; and

(c) whether Central Government will bring special legislation for the verification of trade unions and Central trade unions only by secret ballot?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) As per the established procedure of general verification, undertaken once in 4 years the claimed membership of the affiliates of the Central Trade Unions is required to be verified from the annual returns submitted by the respective affiliates for the year in question. For example, as per Trade Union Rules framed by different States, the returns for 2010 are required to be submitted on different dates ranging from April to July, 2011. These returns are to be verified by the Registrars of Trade Unions, and on non-submission of returns show-cause notices are required to be issued allowing two months time to the concerned trade unions. Again the replies received from trade unions are required to be examined to finalize the register of live trade unions. The process also requires inviting claimed membership, issuing notices numbering 1 to 3 for production of records. For every stage, sufficient time is required to be given as per the decision arrived at in the Standing Committee of the Central Trade Unions headed by Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

(c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.